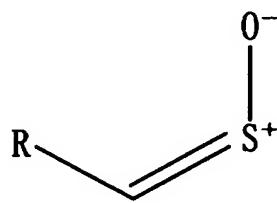


CLAIMS

1. A reagent for lacrimation examination, comprising as an active ingredient a compound represented by the following chemical formula:

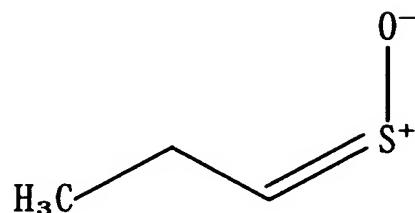
5 [Chemical formula 1]



wherein R represents a C₁₋₅ alkyl chain.

2. A reagent for lacrimation examination, comprising as an active ingredient a compound represented by the following chemical formula.

10 [Chemical formula 2]



3. The reagent for lacrimation examination according to claim 1, which is used for examining dry eye.

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4. A lacrimation examination kit, comprising:
the reagent for lacrimation examination according to claim 1; and
an exposure container used for exposing the eye to the reagent for lacrimation examination, the exposure container being used to cover the eye in a state in which the inner side thereof faces the eye after the reagent for lacrimation examination is placed

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in the exposure container.

5. A method of lacrimation examination, the method comprising:
exposing an eye of a subject to the reagent for lacrimation examination
5 according to claim 1.

6. A method of lacrimation examination, the method comprising:
an exposure step of exposing an eye of a subject to the reagent for lacrimation examination according to claim 1; and
10 a stimulation measurement step of measuring a length of time from the time when the exposure step is started to the time when the subject feels the stimulation, or a degree of stimulation felt by the subject at a certain time point after the start of the exposure step.

- 15 7. A method of lacrimation examination, the method comprising:
an initial tear volume measurement step of measuring a tear volume of a subject in an initial state (the initial tear volume);
an exposure step of exposing an eye of the subject to the reagent for lacrimation examination according to claim 1;
20 a tear volume measurement step of measuring a tear volume of the subject at a certain time point after the exposure step(a post-exposure tear volume) and/or monitoring a increase with time of the tear volume until that time point; and optionally, a calculation step of calculating the difference in the tear volume in the subject between the initial tear volume and the post-exposure tear volume.
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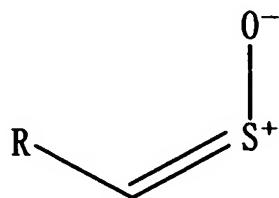
8. A method of lacrimation examination, the method comprising:
an exposure step of exposing an eye of a subject to the reagent for lacrimation examination according to claim 1; and
a tear volume measurement step of measuring a tear volume of the subject at a
30 certain time point after the exposure step.

9. The method of lacrimation examination according to claim 7, wherein the tear volume is measured using a radius of tear meniscus curvature.

- 35 10. The method of lacrimation examination according to claim 5. wherein the exposure of the reagent for lacrimation examination to the eye of the subject is accomplished in a non-contact manner.

11. A lacrimation promoter composition, containing as an active ingredient a compound represented by the following chemical formula:

[Chemical formula 3]

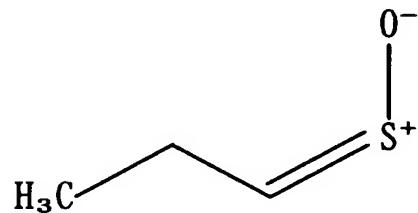


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wherein R represents a C₁₋₅ alkyl chain.

12. A lacrimation promoter composition, containing as an active ingredient a compound represented by the following chemical formula.

10 [Chemical formula 4]



13. The lacrimation promoter composition according to claim 11, which is used for prevention or treatment of dry eye.

15 14. A lacrimation promoter kit, comprising:

the lacrimation promoter composition according to claim 11; and

an exposure container used for exposing an eye to the reagent for lacrimation examination, wherein the exposure container is used to cover the eye in a state in which the inner side thereof faces the eye after the lacrimation promoter composition is placed in the exposure container.

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